

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

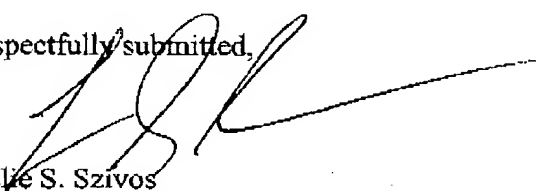
Before addressing the issues raised in the present Office Action, applicants acknowledge, with thanks, the Examiner's indication that Claims 1 and 4-9 are allowable and that Claim 35 would be allowable, if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. The remaining claims, i.e., Claims 24-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0082531 to Rim ("Rim").

In order to expedite prosecution of the present application, applicants have cancelled the non-elected and withdrawn Claims 10-23 and 36-58 in this Response. Applicants have also amended Claim 24 to include the features recited in original Claim 35. Since the features of Claim 35 have been added to Claim 24, applicants have also cancelled original Claim 35 in this Response. Applicants further observe that since amended Claim 24 now includes the allowable features of Claim 35, Claims 24-34 are also allowable.

No comments concerning the anticipation rejection citing Rim are made herein. However, applicants reserve their right to file a continuation application directed to original Claims 24-34 as well as a divisional application directed to method Claims 10-23 and 36-58.

Thus, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is firmly believed that the present case is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie S. Szivos
Registration No. 39,394

SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY & PRESSER
400 Garden City Plaza, Suite 300
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343

LSS:gc